

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: ETRD, ECIN, PORG, OAS, XM, PA

SUBJECT: PARAGUAYAN PRESS CRITICIZES PROPOSED LATIN
AMERICAN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION

REF: ASUNCION 0540

1. IN LINE WITH GENERAL
ATTITUDE OF OPPOSITION TO
EXAGGERATED ATTACKS ON U.S. LATIN AMERICAN POLICY,
THE PARAGUAYAN PRESS CRITICIZED THE PROPOSED
LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION IN EDITORIAL
COMMENT THIS WEEK.

2. IN AN EDITORIAL PRINTED IN THE INDEPENDENT
MORNING DAILY, LA TRIBUNA, ON FEBRUARY 18, THE
PROJECTED ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION WAS CRITICIZED AS
A POTENTIAL DANGER TO REGIONAL HARMONY AND HEMISPHERE
COOPERATION. THE EDITORIAL SAID: "THE VENEZUELAN
AND COLOMBIAN INITIATIVE, WHOSE IMMEDIATE ORIGIN
LIES IN CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE MEXICAN AND
VENEZUELAN PRESIDENTS, TENDS TOWARD THE CREATION
OF AN ORGANIZATION PARALLEL TO AND OUTSIDE OF THE
OAS DEALING WITH ECONOMIC MATTERS AND EXPRESSLY
EXCLUDING THE UNITED STATES.

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3. "IT'S WORTH ASKING WHETHER IN PRACTICE IT WILL REALLY

ACHIEVE (THE COORDINATION OF ECONOMIC POLICY) OR WHETHER
IT WILL DEGENERATE INTO A NEW SOURCE OF CONFLICT
AMONG THE MEMBER NATIONS...

4. "...THE PARALLELISM BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS
CAN BE ADROITLY EXPLOITED, THE MORE SO SINCE CUBA IS
EXCLUDED FROM ONE AND THE UNITED STATES FROM THE OTHER.

5. "...WE MUST PROCEED WITH MUCH TACT AND PRUDENCE TO
PREVENT THAT OUR AREA OF THE WORLD, SO RICH IN POSSIBILI-
TIES, SHOULD TURN INTO A SOURCE OF WORLD TENSION, AS HAS
HAPPENED IN OTHER PARTS OF OUR PLANET."

6. THIS PRESS COMMENT IS ANOTHER IN A SERIES OF
EDITORIALS FAVORABLE TO THE US POSITION IN LATIN AMERICA.
THE VIEW EXPRESSED IN THE EDITORIAL APPEARS TO BE FULLY
SHARED BY THE GOP AS WELL.
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